Claims

1. A method of reinstating a pole standing upright in ground comprising,

abutting an inner surface of a sleeve of a bridging beam against an outer surface of the pole so as to have a lower portion of the bridging beam penetrating the ground and an upper portion of the bridging beam projecting above the ground,

arranging a plurality of locating members around the outer surface of the pole, and

securing the bridging beam to the pole by strapping surrounding the pole held in place with respect to the pole by the locating members.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the bridging beam includes an elongate raised portion extending outwardly from the sleeve for a substantial proportion of the length of the sleeve, and the bridging beam is reinforced by securing a brace in a channel shaped cavity formed by the elongate raised portion prior to abutting the bridging beam against the pole.

3. A method according to claim 2 wherein the brace is secured within the cavity by at least one of hook means and stop means extending from the raised portion into engagement with the brace.

4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the bridging beam is initially abutted against the pole with the bottom of the bridging beam resting on the ground and the bridging beam is driven into the ground whilst maintaining the bridging beam in abutment with the pole.

5. A method according to claim 1 wherein,

locating holes are cut so that they extend radially into the pole from the outer surface of the pole, the locating holes having a depth substantially less than the radius of the pole, and

the locating members are disposed to extend into and be held in the locating holes.

6. A method according to claim 6 wherein the locating members extend through corresponding locating holes in the sleeve.

7. A method according to claim 1 wherein at least four straps arranged at different positions along the length of the pole are used to secure the bridging beam to the pole.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein at least two locating members are used to hold each strap in place.

9. A pole reinstated in accordance with the method of claim 8.

10. A bridging beam assembly comprising a bridging beam, locating members and strapping as defined in claim 1 when used in a method for reinstating a pole as defined in claim 1.

11. A bridging beam for reinstating a pole comprising,

an elongate sleeve shaped so as to be able to abut the surface of the pole parallel to the longitudinal axis of the pole,

an elongate longitudinally extending raised portion of the sleeve forming a channel shaped cavity,

a brace shaped so as to generally fit snugly in the channel shaped cavity, and

securement means for removably securing the brace within the cavity.

12. A bridging beam according to claim 11 comprising a pair of longitudinally extending edges on opposite sides of the elongate sleeve each provided with a flange arranged so as to extend outwardly from the pole.

13. A bridging beam according to claim 11 comprising opposed holes in opposite sides of the raised portion positioned so as to align with corresponding holes in the brace, the arrangement of holes being such that strapping may be threaded through the

opposed holes and corresponding holes to allow the strapping to pass through the bridging beam and encircle the pole.

14. A bridging beam according to claim 13 comprising a pair of longitudinally extending edges on opposite sides of the elongate sleeve each provided with a flange arranged so as to extend outwardly from the pole wherein each flange is provided with complementary holes through which the strapping may be fed.

15. A bridging beam according to claim 11 wherein the securement means comprise a hook member and a stop member mounted in the channel shaped cavity, the hook member and stop member each extending into an aperture formed in the brace.

16. A bridging beam according to claim 11 when used in a method for reinstating a pole as define in claim 2.

17. A pole reinstated in accordance with the method of claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described.

18. A bridging beam according to claim 11 substantially as hereinbefore described.

19. A method according to claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described.